

What is Stormwater Runoff?

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, parking lots and streets prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground. This increases the volume of water discharged which can cause flooding as well as increasing pollutants in our surface waters.



Cannon River

Runoff collected by catch basins in our City streets discharges to the Cannon and Straight Rivers. Pollutants such as sand, gravel, leaves, grass clippings, and garbage discharge directly into rivers and lakes without treatment.

For more information contact:

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To view a copy of the SWPPP visit the City's website @ www.faribault.org



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Stormwater pollution prevention begins with you!

Stormwater Quality

Public Participation and Involvement



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Public Participation and Involvement

With the acceptance of the City of Faribault as a regulated stormwater discharger, it is required by the state and federal governments to develop and implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP). The Program is designed to reduce stormwater pollution to the maximum extent practicable over the next five years.

One of the ways to accomplish this goal is through the promotion of Public Participation and Involvement in stormwater pollution prevention.

What You Can Do

Lawn Care

Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. In addition, yard clippings and leaves can wash into storm drains and contribute nutrients and organic matter to streams.

- Don't over water your lawn.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts.
- Compost or mulch yard waste. Don't leave it in the street or sweep it into storm drains or streams.
- Cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects.

Septic System and Pet Waste Cleanup

Leaking and poorly maintained septic systems release nutrients and pathogens (bacteria and viruses) that can be picked up by stormwater and discharged into

nearby waterbodies.

- Inspect your system every 3 years and pump your tank as necessary (every 3 to 5 years).
- Don't dispose of household hazardous waste in sinks or toilets.

Pet waste can be a major source of bacteria and excess nutrients in local waters.

- When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method.

Auto Care

Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system. Dumping automotive fluids into storm drains has the same result as dumping the materials directly into a waterbody.

- Use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles its wastewater, or wash your car on your yard so the water infiltrates into the ground.
- Repair leaks and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations.



Grass Clippings

Grass clippings from a residential lawn in the curb and gutter near a catch basin. Grass clippings end up in lakes and streams resulting in algae blooms and possible fish kill events caused from a lack of oxygen in the water due to rotting vegetation. Also can result in neighborhood flooding from blocked catch basins.

There are various programs developed and being developed by the City of Faribault that you, as stakeholders in clean surface water, can take advantage of.

City of Faribault "Hotline"

City residents can call about problems concerning construction site erosion control, illegal dumping, non-stormwater discharges, cross connections and drainage issues. Issues are then entered into the City's Work Order system for site visits, problem evaluation and correction as needed. Your help is invaluable in finding and correcting problems especially concerning illegal dumping and illicit discharges. Hotline phone number is 507-333-0361.

Coming Soon!

Programs will be started soliciting volunteer groups and other interested parties to Adopt-a-Pond &/or Adopt-a-Catch Basin/Street within the City. The benefits of these two programs are two fold:

- 1) Clean catch basins and ponds keep pollutants like leaves, grass clippings, trash etc. out of our surface waters and
- 2) Allow the structures to work as designed.



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